



State Board of Equalization

# News Release

**Vice Chair Michelle Steel**

**3<sup>rd</sup> District – Rolling Hills Estates**

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Executive Director  
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## **Free Costa Mesa Small Business Seminar Provides Information to Help Small Businesses Succeed**

**Sacramento** – If you own a small business or are thinking of starting one, a free Small Business Seminar and Resource Expo on May 3 could provide the information you need to succeed. This helpful event is being hosted by Board of Equalization Vice Chair Michelle Steel, Assemblyman Allan Mansoor and the City of Costa Mesa.

The seminar will cover a variety of topics, including state and federal tax laws, avoiding common sales and use tax problems, keeping good records, small business administration loan programs and services, social media marketing and the difference between independent contractors and employees.

Representatives from the Board of Equalization, Franchise Tax Board, Internal Revenue Service, Employment Development Department, U.S. Small Business Administration, Coastline Institute for Economic Development and Service Core of Retired Employees (SCORE), Orange County will be available to answer questions.

**Event:** Costa Mesa Small Business Fair and Resource Expo

**Date:** Thursday, May 3, 2012

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. (check-in at 8:30 a.m.)

**Place:** Costa Mesa Neighborhood Community Center  
1845 Park Avenue  
Costa Mesa, CA 92627  
(Free Parking)

**Register:** Call 888-847-9652 or go online at: [www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/sbf.htm](http://www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/sbf.htm)

For more information visit: [http://www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/pdf/CM\\_SBF\\_invite\\_color\\_web.pdf](http://www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/pdf/CM_SBF_invite_color_web.pdf)

**Editor's Note:** Listen to the 15-second and 30-second audio public service announcements (PSAs) for this event at <http://www.boe.ca.gov/news/CMPSA-15s.mp3> and <http://www.boe.ca.gov/news/CMPSA-30s.mp3>

Additional information regarding other helpful in-person classes offered by BOE is available at: [www.boe.ca.gov/info/VirtualSeminars/seminars\\_inperson.htm](http://www.boe.ca.gov/info/VirtualSeminars/seminars_inperson.htm).

The BOE offers easy to use, convenient, 24-hour accessible online seminars on a variety of tax and fee topics at: [http://www.boe.ca.gov/info/VirtualSeminars/seminars\\_online.htm](http://www.boe.ca.gov/info/VirtualSeminars/seminars_online.htm).

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Elected to the Board of Equalization in 2006 and re-elected in 2010, Michelle Steel serves as *Southern California's elected taxpayer advocate*. In December 2007, Steel discovered the Board of Equalization had delayed the return of millions of dollars in security deposits owed to California businesses. Procedures were changed due to Steel's decisive leadership. Following her investigation, the tax agency refunded tax security deposits to over 5,500 small businesses. To date, over \$100 million in security deposits have been returned to taxpayers.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization (BOE) is a publicly elected tax board. The BOE collects more than \$50 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and serves a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes. For more information on other taxes and fees in California, visit [www.taxes.ca.gov](http://www.taxes.ca.gov).

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